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Luisa T Pereira,
You should see this letter before your discussion - Wednesday C

EAST TIMOR
Ireland Solidarity Campaign

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Dear Carmel,

Greetings from Dublin.

To-day I met with officials, including the junior minister of Foreign Affairs, to discuss the upcoming UN Human Rights commission in Geneva. I briefed them on the latest situation in East Timor. I spoke to them at this meeting and at an earlier meeting on the possibility of the French coming up with a resolution. I did this confidently and asked that they, on the quiet, seek to find out if there was an initiative coming from the French. At the meeting this morning they informed me that as far as they know the french will not be putting forward a resolution and would be going for a statement by the Chairman. That, according to them, is the position at the present time unless the French have "something up their sleeve".

They, the Irish, would endorse the resolution put forward by the Portuguese and would also seek to lobby other EU countries to support the Portuguese. They feel that the 'big players' ie. UK, French and Germany don't want to 'upset' the Indonesians. They are going to lobby for the resolution but their fall back position is for Indonesia to allow the Special Rapporteurs on torture and disappearance to go to East Timor. They feel that the Indonesians will resist this as the Santa Cruz report was so strong against Indonesia.
Thought you may like to know this.

Regarding the French position please keep it confidential as to where the information of their position came from.

Regards
Tom

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